



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 1878.

The proceedings of Congress to day were not of interest. The Senate passed the bill providing for the appointment of a commission to enquire into the liquor traffic. Mr. Blaine took occasion to denounce the arbitration of the Halifax Fish Commission, and stated that Great Britain had secured an advantage in the appointment of the umpire.

The House of Representatives had under consideration, in Committee of the Whole, the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill.

It is to be hoped that the parties engaged in the lynching affair, an account of which is published in another column, may be discovered and punished according to their deserts. The accused, who was in the hands of the proper officers, would have received a fair trial, and, if found guilty, would have been punished as the law directs. Her death, under the circumstances attending it, was cold blooded murder. Virginia is already low enough in the estimation of the world, and this attempt to degrade her still more by branding her as a State in which not only civil, but criminal law is set at defiance, should meet with a reception sufficiently severe to prevent its repetition. The accused, too, was a woman, who could have been treated no worse by savages, and that a party of Virginians could have been guilty of her murder would not have been believed before the occurrence. Virginia cannot afford to have her white people relapse into barbarism.

It is asserted that the call for the extra session of the Louisiana Legislature was for the sole purpose of affording an opportunity for pardoning Anderson and stopping the prosecution of the other members of the late returning board of that State. We were opposed to the commencement of proceedings against these men, but now that they have been instituted we hope they may meet with no interference and may be pushed to their furthest legitimate extent. Because Mr. Hayes is President and people want the way in which he became so forgotten are no good reasons why criminals should go unpunished, especially when such exemption would only gratify the criminals and their personal friends and the ultra wing of the radical party.

Col. Ward H. Lamon, of West Virginia, is another one of the Grant radicals who is disgusted with Mr. Hayes' civil service reform, but has only manifested his disgust since he failed to obtain a position in the Treasury Department for a friend. Mr. Hayes' civil service reform has certainly been a great failure, but some people are so slow in arriving at conclusions that they had to wait until their own, or the applications of their friends for office were refused, before they became positively aware that such was really the case.

Thirty thousand four hundred dollars of internal revenue were collected in one Virginia city, Richmond, last week, and yet the radicals point exultingly to the State's depleted treasury. Were it not for the unjust proportion of national taxes she has to bear she would have no difficulty in settling accounts with her creditors. Her sparse and impoverished population pays more taxes to the support of the General Government than almost the whole of New England.

Much sweetness has been wasted on the desert air, but we never heard of more being wasted on the desert ocean, at one time, than on Saturday last, when a vessel was wrecked in Chesapeake bay, and one hundred thousand oranges, six thousand bunches of bananas, and one hundred and seventy thousand coconuts, given to the waves.

Well may people be alarmed and look in vain for places of safety when clergymen become poisoners. Rev. G. B. Vosburg, of Jersey City, has now been arrested for trying to poison his wife.

Gold sold to-day as low as 1/2, but we look in vain for the improvement in business to result from the silver bill.

Tornado.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 10, 1878.—The city of Atlanta experienced to-day the severest wind storm or rainless tornado ever known here. The storm burst suddenly about 11 o'clock a. m. and when all the churches were filled with worshippers, and lasted, without rain, with a steady and tremendous force, for two hours.

The Episcopal Church, like the others, was filled at the hour for the commencement of divine service, and no thought of danger was entertained by the congregation. But during the early part of the service the wind suddenly rose and shook the whole building to its foundations. The officiating minister realized at once that a tornado had struck the building, and knowing that it was merely a question of time before the safety of the people, cried out to them to throw themselves under the seats. This advice the congregation at once followed, and not a moment too soon.

With a few fearful cracks and jars of its roof and walls the whole building crumbled into a shapeless ruin, burying the congregation under the debris. Luckily the shelter afforded by the seats protected the great mass of the congregation, but eighteen were more or less seriously wounded by the falling timbers. None of these, however, have died of their injuries.

The church is an utter wreck, and the escape of the congregation must be regarded as miraculous, considering the awful force and suddenness of the storm. Many persons not otherwise injured suffer from the effects of inhaling the dust caused by the crushing in of the walls and roof.

Several other churches in Atlanta have been seriously injured, their walls shaken and roofs partly stripped. The City Hall has been entirely unroofed and the car sheds of the railroad depot unsettled. Great damage, an estimate of which cannot yet be determined, was done to private residences and stores throughout the city.

The New Hampshire election takes place to-morrow. If the radicals do as they threaten, the democrats will carry the State, but of all human creatures radicals are the most uncertain.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE M. E. CHURCH.

[Reported for the Alexandria Gazette.] FIFTH DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference assembled, pursuant to adjournment, at 3:30 o'clock, Saturday afternoon, Bishop Andrews in the Chair. Rev. John Ryan, by request, read the religious service, by reading a lesson, prayer, and announcing a hymn, after which the secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted.

The statistical secretary made a lengthy report upon all the different branches of the Church in the State, showing a considerable increase of members, probationists, Sunday school scholars, church edifices, &c., &c., which report was accepted.

The chairman of the Freedman's Aid Society, Rev. H. Clement, reported progress, and announced the following resolutions, as having been passed by the committee, and worthy of the consideration of the conference.

Resolved, That the Freedman's Aid Society, under its present administration, is worthy of the liberality of all of our people.

Resolved, That we will endeavor to take up a collection for it in each of our charges. The report was adopted.

Rev. J. S. Beyer was appointed to preach the missionary sermon next year, with Rev. J. W. Richardson as alternate.

The church extension board was constituted as last year. Rev. Mr. Pierce being substituted for W. C. Webb as corresponding secretary.

Rev. J. S. Beyer asked the conference if it would, as a body, sign a petition for Mrs. W. Harper, widow of a late member, for a position in one of the departments at Washington.

Bishop Andrews said he did not deem such action proper, but he had no doubt that all who could would assist Mrs. H. individually.

The report of the committee to audit president Anderson's accounts, was adopted.

Question No. 2, "Who are admitted on trial?" was asked, and the names of Rev. D. E. Pendleton, Rev. W. E. Bellomy, Rev. John K. Rumburg and Rev. Gordon Niece, were proposed and accepted.

Question No. 20, "Where shall the next conference be held?" was next in order, and the names of Zion's Camp Ground near Abingdon, Portsmouth, Berryville, and New River, put in nomination, but after some debate all were withdrawn except Zion's Camp Ground, located in Washington county, and consequently that place was designated.

Rev. J. S. Beyer offered a resolution to the effect that the next conference be held as early in the month of March as possible, which was adopted.

Bishop Andrews announced that he would make the appointments after the Sunday evening session. He then made a few very appropriate remarks upon the close of the session and complimented the members of the conference very highly upon the orderly manner in which they had conducted themselves throughout, and urged upon them the necessity in the future, as in the past, of strict unity in all their actions, which could only be continued by a strict adherence to the faith they professed.

Rev. J. S. Beyer offered the following resolutions which were adopted by a unanimous standing vote:

Resolved, That the thanks of the conference are due, and are hereby tendered to the hospitable people of this city, who have entertained us, and to the railroads which have reduced our fares.

Resolved, That we desire to express our pleasure in the presence and the presidency of Bishop Andrews, and we return him our thanks for his faithful, able and courteous service, for his wise counsel, and the interest and profit received from his missionary addresses.

After reading the minutes of this meeting, the Conference adjourned to meet at Zion's Camp Ground on the first Wednesday in March, 1879.

APPOINTMENTS.

After the sermon last night, Bishop Andrews read the appointments for the ensuing year, as follows:

Alexandria District—Rev. A. J. Porter, P. E. Richmond, to be supplied; Norfolk, Rev. E. H. Vaughn; Portsmouth, Rev. John Ryan; Old Point Comfort, Rev. W. S. Schooley; Falmouth, Rev. J. B. Feltner; Alexandria, Rev. L. H. Pearce; Falls Church, Rev. J. S. Beyer and Rev. D. M. Mutersbaugh; Herndon, Rev. C. W. Ball; Leesburg and Hillsborough, Rev. W. H. Forsyth and Gordon Niece; Berryville, Rev. E. E. Evans; Manassas and Greenwood, Rev. S. A. Ball; Free State, to be supplied.

Rockingham District—Rev. J. S. Wickline, P. E.—Augusta, Rev. G. P. Wanless; Rockingham, Rev. Henry Clement; Rockbridge, Rev. J. A. Kelley; Sweet Springs, Rev. G. W. Paul; Monrovia, Rev. J. W. Graham; Forest Hill, Rev. C. M. Noff; Lewisburg, Rev. R. A. Scott; Blue Sulphur, to be supplied by Rev. J. Leaf; Greenbrier, Rev. G. W. Graham; Pocahontas, Rev. A. W. Richardson; Highland, Rev. D. O. O'Connell; Pineapple, Rev. Jacob H. Hayslip; New River, Rev. G. H. Thompson.

Southwest District—Rev. M. A. Adams, P. E. Washington—to be supplied by Rev. J. A. Conner; Lee, Rev. A. H. Ingle; Scott, Rev. H. J. Crumley; Nicholasville, Rev. Sampson Nichols; Wino, D. E. Pendleton; Buchanan and New Garden, Rev. J. N. Penley; Russell, Rev. W. E. Bellomy; Tazewell and Bland, Rev. A. F. Combow; Wythe and Smyth, Rev. Isaac Wisely; Grayson, Rev. Thos. Wright; Carroll, Rev. B. S. Turner; Auburn, Falmouth and West Fluvy, Rev. J. S. Weaver; Roanoke, Rev. N. B. Wickham; Floyd, Rev. A. W. Boon; Franklin, Rev. J. K. Rumburg.

Rev. W. C. Webb, transferred to the Indiana; Rev. J. P. Otis, to Wilmington, and Rev. C. King, to New York Conferences.

Foreign News.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The question as to the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is to be submitted to the Congress. The grant of sixty million florins asked for by the Austrian Government is objected to by the Hungarian delegates, who desire guarantees that if the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina should prove necessary the Government should immediately seek the cooperation of the Constitutional bodies. The extension of Bulgaria to the Aegean Sea has created great commotion in Greece, since, if carried out, it crushes the aspirations of that country in connection with Thrace, Constantinople and the Dardanelles. A rumor prevailed in London on Saturday that Lord Lyons would probably replace Lord Derby as Foreign Secretary of State in case affairs with Russia again become threatening. Rouff Pasha and General Ignatieff started for St. Petersburg yesterday with the treaty of peace for ratification by the Czar. The visit of the Grand Duke Nicholas to the Sultan has been abandoned for the present. England has proposed that Greece be admitted to the Congress, which has caused much satisfaction in Athens.

LONDON, March 11.—Trustworthy private advices from India, state that the Mohammedans are greatly excited in consequence of the overthrow of Turkey. Serious trouble is even apprehended unless the Government take some anti-Russian action shortly. It is believed that two hundred thousand Moslem volunteers to serve against Russia could be raised without difficulty.

A Berlin dispatch to the London Times says: "Even governmental newspapers as the Post, National Zeitung and others heretofore favorable to Russia, deem it necessary since the terms of peace are known to take precautions for the protection of European interests. The Post says measures must be taken to prevent the Dardanelles and Bulgaria from becoming Russian property."

WAR FEELING IN ENGLAND.

At the peace demonstration in Hyde Park yesterday Messrs. Bradlaugh and Herbert made short speeches and proposed resolutions in fa-

vor of peace, which passed immediately. Soon afterwards the supporters of the Government policy arrived in force, and the meeting was declared dissolved. Mr. Bradlaugh was cut-gelled and fled in a cab.

The number of persons who attended the demonstration was about 2,000. They were hustled about the park and finally ejected by a large and disorderly mob. Sticks were freely used and several men slightly hurt, and were taken to hospital. The mob then separated, going to cheer for Lord Beaconsfield and General Pasha. A large crowd cheered and marched before Mr. Gladstone's residence. Mr. Gladstone and wife when going to church were obliged to take refuge in a friend's house, whence they were escorted by the police. The Duke of Teck was mistaken for Count Schouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador, and insulted and hustled by the mob.

CANADA.

After the transaction of routine business in the Quebec Legislature, Saturday, the Speaker reported that he had received a copy of the explanations and official correspondence read and submitted by Hon. Mr. Angers on the previous day. Mr. Lorranger rose and made a motion for an address to the Lieutenant Governor, testifying to a desire of the House to accord the supplies on the condition that the constitutional principle of the majority governing should be recognized. [Cries of "Carried!"] "Carried!" A wrangle ensued, which was interrupted by the appearance of the black rod, who delivered a message to the effect that the Lieutenant Governor demanded the attendance of the Speaker and members of the Assembly at the bar of the upper house. [A voice from the ex-ministerial side, "No!"] "No!" The Speaker rose from his chair, and preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms with the mace, left the Chamber, followed by the liberal members. Mr. Angers and his friends refusing to respect the command of the representative of the assembly, and remaining behind in the assembly chamber. Lieutenant Governor Letellier said that being desirous of ascertaining in a constitutional manner the sentiments of the people regarding ministerial changes he had determined to prorogue the Legislature with a view to its early dissolution. He then declared the Assembly prorogued to the 11th day of April.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Gladstone has written a letter to the Greenwith Liberal Association, stating that he will not contest Greenwith at the next general election, in consequence of a growing sense of his inability to discharge all the duties which that constituency may reasonably expect from one of its representatives.

LONDON, March 11.—The Home correspondent of the Times telegraphs to that journal as follows:—"Signor Carroli, who has undertaken the formation of a new ministry is a former Garibaldian. He is deservedly popular and is the only one who can reorganize the Liberal party sunk in discredit through the conduct of Signor, Nicotra, Depretis and Crispi, but he is not an administrator and will take no portfolio, only accepting the presidency of the council. Signor Zanardelli, former Minister of Public Works, will probably be Minister of the Interior. Signor Farini, Minister of Public Affairs, and Signor Durano, Minister of Foreign Affairs."

The same correspondent also says:—"The disturbances among the Swiss guard, at the Vatican continue. Forty of them have been dismissed. Some fanatics both inside and outside the Vatican are tampering with mercenaries for the purpose of creating difficulties for the Pope."

NEW YORK, March 11.—Cubans residing in this city and neighborhood have resolved to send men and means to their faithful compatriots who still struggle to win the independence of their native island.

Letter from Leesburg.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

LEESBURG, Va., March 9.—To show that there is some profit in working land in Loudoun county please take the following instance:—

There is a family consisting of a widow, a maiden sister of her husband, four young girls and a grown son on a farm of 145 acres, valued at \$7,045. This farm is stocked evidently well with cows, some hogs, a few sheep, and a few horses and hens. The amount of wheat used for seed in dollars is \$25.42; consumed in bread, \$39.75; beef for food, \$17.50; pork consumed, \$39.00; corn consumed in bread, food for cattle and hogs, \$140.00; total used at home, \$265.67. The amount sold is \$234.74; corn, \$16.00; total grain sold, \$250.74. Other articles sold are as follows: Pork and pigs, \$183.99; beef and hide, \$18.90; cows and calves, \$70.38; lambs and wool, \$22.62; onions and sweet potatoes, \$8.15; dairy products, \$88.16; and poultry, \$91.58; total products sold, \$733.53, namely, \$265.67, makes the gross products of this farm, \$999.25. The gross expenses, including fertilizers, \$92.10; year hogs, \$181.00; day hands, \$31.00; horse hire, \$20.50; taxes, \$75.24; blacksmith, \$30.67; store bill, \$18.43; repairing carriages, \$10.00; shoe bill, \$16.00; new implements and repairs to old, \$59.00; fire, new implements and repairs to old, \$12.47; and other items, \$16.75; total outlay, \$653.60, which taken from gross earnings, \$999.25, leaves clear proceeds of farm for increase of estate, \$345.65, which divided by \$70.45, shows a 10 per cent earned by this land after supporting this family, almost all of whom are women. In addition four of the women are wards and their entire expenses for clothing, outside of the general store bills, are \$18.72. You will perceive that this family has a carriage, and has some of the luxuries of this life, and certainly its comforts. To take away all chance for caviling we will suppose their stock and furniture to be worth \$1,000, this would make the entire investment \$8,045.00, and the net per centage on the entire capital, after supporting the family, would be \$44 nearly. Now for a proposition: You are about to start an agricultural society, and I presume one of its objects is to bring Virginia into prominence as a safe and profitable investment for money put into lands. Suppose they offer premiums for the best tract of twenty acres; the best of fifty acres, and seventy-five acres; one hundred acres; two hundred acres; three hundred acres; and any farm over three hundred acres of cleared land. Require the competitors to keep strict accounts of the value of all farm products sold, and of all consumed in the family, counting those used in the family at the same price as those sold, unless the best are sold, which did not use to be the case with Virginia farmers. Then report the cost of cultivating the land, fixing the cost of ploughing the land with three horse plow, or two-horse, or one horse plow at the same price, and also harrowing at the uniform price, and get at the whole cost of production. Add then the taxes paid, the interest on the land, and on the stock and implements used in farming, and deduct for deterioration in the value of the stock from use, less any addition to the value by increase of cows, hogs, sheep, &c.—And let this be accompanied with the judgment of the competitor as to the best manure for each article raised by him. What is said to cost in Loudoun one dollar and twenty cents a bushel, including cost of fertilizer, but I very much doubt whether there is any farmer in Loudoun that knows the exact cost by items of a bushel of wheat. It is, at best, only an intelligent guess, and may be four or five cents out of the true cost. I know of renters who have made money. I hear this week of a farmer who was offered \$1,000 for a piece of land, and was deliberating whether to sell it. The buildings with firewood and some other small privileges brought him \$60, and he pastured it to the extent \$60 more; thus making 12 per cent on this investment of same land, (and how much I do not know) on the side of the Blue Ridge. Is this a safe investment?

Legislative.

In the State Senate, yesterday, a resolution was introduced providing for an additional tax of 12 1/2 per cent. over and above the 50 cents on the \$100 of assessed values to be applied exclusively to the support of the public schools, in lieu of all other direct taxes of school purposes, except the capitation tax; a bill was passed to amend section 9 of chapter 7 of the Code, in relation to registration of voters. The bill provides that there shall be but one day for registration in cities in place of three days as heretofore.

Bills were also passed to amend the law in regard to the repairing the bridges, &c., in Rappahannock county; to amend section 34 of chapter 49 of the Code, in reference to exemption from distric; and to require citizens of Rockingham county owning lands on streams to keep the same clear of obstructions.

A bill to amend an act establishing the department of agriculture, mining and manufacturing was ordered to be engrossed.

A bill transferring to the Richmond and Allegany Railroad Company and the Potomac and Ohio Railroad Company all claims of the State of Virginia against the United States, &c., was partially considered and the rest of the day consumed in discussing the bill imposing a tax, and prescribing the mode of collecting the same, for the privilege of selling wines, liquors, &c.

In the House of Delegates, a bill to consolidate the public debt and to provide for the payment of a uniform rate of interest in accordance with the institutions of the House, as embodied in the preamble of Mr. Fowler and the resolution of Mr. Johnston, heretofore published in the Gazette, was reported.

The bill to submit to the people at the next November election the question of calling a Constitutional Convention, was passed—yeas, 59; nays, 50; Mr. Hunter voting in the affirmative and Mr. Mushback in the negative.

Much time was occupied in the discussion of a bill "to provide for the payment of certain fees to James G. Field, M. Bowtell Sewall and Jno. M. Forbes." The three gentlemen were employed in pursuance of the resolution of the House of Delegates to investigate the claim of State against Bradley T. Johnson and the Messrs. Poe for alleged over charges as counsel in the Chesapeake and Ohio canal case. They have each been paid \$250. The bill proposes to give each \$500 more and to pay Messrs. Sewall and Forbes each \$350 in addition as a retainer, and to guarantee them (Messrs. Sewall and Forbes) ten per cent. more on the amount they may recover. The bill does not contemplate giving the Attorney General anything (outside of his regular salary) for his services in the matter since he became Attorney General. The discussion was postponed.

The bill in relation to the revision of the Criminal law of the State was taken up and considered at adjournment, and at the next session of the General Assembly. And on and Mr. Mushback the following was also added to the bill:

Provided further, That in the cities of Richmond and Alexandria the judges of the Hustings or Corporation Court, shall with the consent of the city council, make an allowance to pay the necessary and proper salaries of such number of deputy sergeants as said judges shall consider needed, and such allowance shall be paid out of the treasury of said cities.

On motion the law was left as at present in relation to said deputy sergeants. The bill was amended in some respects to make druggists more careful in labelling poisons. The bill was finally ordered to its third reading.

Letter from Westmoreland.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

WESTMORELAND, Va., March 9, 1878.

Bees are buzzing, birds are singing, the insects and flowers are out, and March is in some respects as warm and amorous as May almost. Even the "tick"—a summer favorite—has not found it necessary to go into winter quarters, but has been seen at occasional intervals all the season. A splendid season for the farmers, and I believe they are taking advantage of it. I notice a good deal of ploughed land, and the gardens are being put in order. This is the season of "arrecas," and the old Virginia gentleman's dish is as palatable as ever.

A little money about here will go a long way now, and with eggs at eight cents a dozen and butter at ten to twelve cents a pound living is easy to those who have the change to spare for such good things; but unfortunately, like the Irishman who could have bought ever so much bread for a penny in the "ould country," the pennies are correspondingly scarce with the abundance, or, at least, the cheapness of food.

A somewhat careful inspection of the fruit buds seems to show that so far no injury has been done by the frost. This is an important source of income hereabouts, and from old field blackberries to first dress portions of our spending money. To illustrate the profits of pear culture, there is in sight of where I write an orchard, chiefly the Duchess D'Angouleme variety, of one-fourth of an acre in extent, the yield from which, in one season, was sold at about \$100. The prices ranged from one to two dollars per box. This orchard costs its owner nothing save the annual spring ploughing and a little pruning; while the gathering of the fruit is done by boys, and is of trifling cost. These trees will last from fifteen to twenty years. If anybody knows anything more profitable in the farming way I should like to hear of it.

Grass and cattle are what we want. I should like for some one to preach this until everybody believed. We sell our land its entire strength, send it to market in the shape of wheat and corn, and then wonder that our land is poor. Cattle will enrich the land, furnish us with more healthful and palatable food, and directly improve the land. It is a common notion that grass cannot be grown profitably in this region. It is simply not true. I have known \$600 worth of splendid hay to be made on seventeen acres of upland in this county. Orchard grass succeeds admirably. The question of sheep raising must be postponed till those who represent the State in the Legislature are courageous enough to exterminate the miserable dogs, whose worthless existence renders this, the most profitable of husbandry elsewhere, an impossibility here.

NEW METHOD OF ELECTING A PRESIDENT. Mr. Abram S. Hewitt, in his paper on the method of electing a President, contributed to the International Review, argues that after the experience of 1876 it will be impossible for the people to feel certain that there will be a proper record and return of the actual result of an election for President where the stake is so large, the temptation to commit fraud so great and the facilities for doing it successfully comparatively so easy. It may happen—indeed, is very likely to—that the manipulation of the returns of one of the lost of the States may defeat the expression of the will of the people of the whole country. Mr. Hewitt's remedy for this is to put the election somewhat more directly into the hands of the people by a complete return to the system, at one time in vogue in some of the States, of choosing the electors by district, as Congressmen are chosen, with two at large on the State ticket. The returns for these electors need to be made up in their respective districts, and all contests decided in the State courts. This Mr. Hewitt believes would put it out of the power of a single State to change the actual result of an election by a fraudulent manipulation of the returns. Had the election of 1876 been conducted under this system, and classifying the electors according to the policies of the Congressmen returned, Mr. Tilden would have had 161 district electors and Mr. Hayes 140. Of the seventy electors at large—not counting Florida, Louisiana, and South Carolina—Tilden would have had 34 and Hayes 36 which would have made the aggregate vote of each as follows: Tilden, 195; Hayes, 176. The six electors at large for the three lost States could then have gone to Hayes without defeating Tilden and the popular vote.

Letter from Richmond.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

RICHMOND, March 9, 1878.

Yesterday evening some excitement was created in Richmond by the receipt of the intelligence of a reported duel at the University of Virginia. The rumors in Richmond were so conflicting, and there was such an evident desire on the part of those who ought to have known the particulars to hush them up, that the Gazette's correspondent determined to investigate the matter, and, therefore, took the evening train for Charlottesville. Your correspondent reached Charlottesville this morning and at once set to work to get the citizens' version of the affair before proceeding to the University. Many of the people in the city said there was really a quarrel between the two duellists, and that they went out for the purpose of settling their differences, according to the code, but, upon arriving on the field, wisely determined to settle the matter amicably and make terms. All agreed, and they returned to town arm in arm. Many citizens again insisted that the whole matter was a hoax, gotten up with a view of selling the faculty and students generally. Your correspondent then went to the University and endeavored to go among the students in a way, and get the facts in relation to the affair, but some of his old friends recognized him and at once asked if he "had not come up to follow up the duel." After patiently interviewing several of them it was shown to your correspondent's satisfaction that the affair was a hoax—admirably played. Indeed one of the students remarked that "the tables had been turned upon the would-be duellists, and that they were getting the worst of the joke, for many of the citizens at Charlottesville believed that the duel was a bona fide affair, and that the principals went out on the field in earnest. This was a correct statement, for your correspondent found that many of the citizens and one of the policemen had been taken in by the affair, inasmuch as they believed that the quarrel and challenge were genuine. The version of a student who was in the affair is as follows: On Tuesday night Mr. Bradley T. Johnson, Jr., a law student, and son of Gen. B. T. Johnson, of this city, was playing a game of billiards with Mr. Cockrell, a medical student, and son of United States Senator Cockrell, of Missouri. A dispute arose between the two students as to a shot made by one of them during the progress of the game, and Mr. Cockrell called Mr. Johnson a liar. Both young men then began to show a belligerent spirit and were only prevented from getting into blows by the strenuous efforts of friends who held them apart. Johnson affirmed that he had been insulted and meant to have satisfaction therefor. Later that night Mr. Johnson sent a challenge to Mr. Cockrell. The hostile message was drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the code. It was accepted, time and place named—"revolvers"; distance—twenty paces. Messrs. D'Arcy Paul, of Petersburg, and H. T. Gantner, of Baltimore, acted as Johnson's seconds, and Messrs. Garrison, and Eppes, of Texas, acted as Cockrell's seconds. The next morning the parties secured two hacks and left the University. They carried with them a medical student as surgeon, a bag hamper of provisions and wine hidden underneath a great provision of hat well displayed.

They were their intention to select Monticello as the place of meeting and they started for that place, but fearing detection, owing to the publicity of the place, went to "Pantop," the farm of Rev. Mr. Wood, and here it was that the hostile meeting took place.

Now it chanced that the rumor of the meeting had by this time spread very rapidly. Two students followed the party and hid in the bushes to see the fight. The dueling party saw them and therefore determined to enact the tragedy for their benefit. Accordingly the seconds handed the principal knives and both went to waver and stagger. The two frightened students in the bushes could stand the sight no longer and rushed away into town calling "police," and telling everybody that the duel had been fought and that Bradley Johnson had been wounded. The news spread through the town and University. The students forgot lectures and everything and went to bring home the wounded man. Warrants were issued for the arrest of the two principals. When the dueling party drove into town and ascertained the condition of affairs and the fact that warrants were out for them they went back into the country again and played several games of cards in the woods. Their friends made all haste to state that the "liar" was a hoax. Later the young men returned to the University and the Faculty sent them sitting on the steps side by side, laughing over the affair, wisely came to the conclusion that these two youths could not have had much reason to fight a duel. As was stated, several wise people insist that the duel did take place, and that the young men went out to fight in earnest. But all the students that your correspondent conversed with affirm that the quarrel over the billiards, and in fact the whole affair, was planned before hand and carried out as planned. There can be no doubt that it is as they state. And yet this is a fine gentleman on the train remarking, "Don't you believe any such story as this—that that was fought in earnest, and they are now trying to hush it up!" Which shows that it is a very hard thing for some people to acknowledge that they have been "taken in."

The Legislature will adjourn since this Thursday.

There is a rumor afloat that the Governor will call them in extra session, but it is not believed.

A young gentleman of this city, not connected with the legislature, has on foot a plan for paying the State debt which is certainly more feasible than that of getting ladies to sell their jewelry for this purpose. He proposes that a "State Debt Paying Association" be formed. Ten dollars a year will be the cost of belonging to it, and every man woman and child in the State is eligible for membership. Upon the payment of ten dollars, each member will receive a certificate setting forth that fact, and enrolling the payer among the army of patriots. This certificate the holder can keep and show in coming years as evidence of his patriotism and his duty to his old mother in the hour of her need. It is calculated that in the cities thousands could afford to join and thus make up the deficiency in the country.

The students at the University of Virginia are very enthusiastic over Mr. McCormick's gift to the University, and will at once inaugurate measures to raise the \$30,000 needed to build an observatory for the telescope.

Every member of the Alumni should take measures to help in the work.

METEOROLOGICAL.—February, 1878, has been an unusually mild month, considering it followed so mild a winter, as we generally have the cold in this month, if not before, the mean temperature of the month being 40.41. The warmest point was on the 22d and 23d, each 68°. The lowest temperature was the morning of the 4th, 20°, and on the 10th, 21°. And notwithstanding the low range of the barometer, only 29.66 in., there was only 1.67 inches of rain during the month. Mean temperature: February, 1871, 24.10; 1872, 32.12; 1873, 30.66; 1874, 36.65; 1875, 28.25; 1876, 37.60; 1877, 38.53; 1878, 40.41. This shows the warmest February since 1870, beyond which I have not calculated it. C. GILLINHAM.

Atentak, Va.

When one knows a good thing it should be sold; and we do know from experience that Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is the best remedy for coughs and colds we ever saw. It only costs 25 cts. a bottle.

A Woman Lynched.

The Richmond correspondent of the New York Herald says:—"I am in receipt of information which gives the details of the unprecedented horror of the summary execution of a woman by Lynch law. The atrocious deed was perpetrated in the eastern portion of Rockingham county on Wednesday night, and not far from the scene of the celebrated Lawson murder. It appears that on Tuesday last a negro boy named Jim Arbegast was committed to the jail of Rockingham county upon the charge of having burned the barn of Henry E. Sipe on Thursday, the 18th ult. By the destruction of the barn Sipe lost two horses, two head of cattle, thirteen plows, several barrows and all the agricultural implements on the farm, together with all the saddles, harness and all the products of grain, hay and other articles. Subsequent investigation disclosed the fact that the incendiary torch was applied at the instigation and by the inducement of a colored woman named Charlotte Harris, who is said to have had some grudge against the Sipe family."

A warrant was procured for the arrest of the woman, and on Wednesday evening last Mr. H. and J. M. Tabb and John Sipe, who had gone in pursuit of Charlotte Harris, arrested her and returned with her in custody. They overtook her as she was attempting to escape at the house of Henry Banks, colored, about two miles east of Harrisonburg. Magistrate A. S. Shipp, William D. Maiden and H. Arganright, who gave the case a preliminary examination, and the evidence being very strong against the accused, her commitment to jail was ordered. Over one hundred persons were present at the examination, during which the excitement was intense. No threats were made, nor were there any indications visible that the woman's life would shortly pay the terrible penalty of her crime.